

Attorney Docket No. 00658D/LH

This paper is being submitted via
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Keiji SHIODA et al
Serial No. : 10/662,198
Confirm. No.: 9433
Filed : September 11, 2003
For : SURGICAL MICROSCOPIC SYSTEM
Art Unit : 2872
Examiner : Thong Q. Nguyen

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not already paid, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any fees for which payment has not been submitted, or to credit any overpayments, to Account No. 06-1378.

AMENDMENT FILED WITH RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Office Action mailed December 22, 2005, the term for response to which is extended by three months by Petition filed concurrently herewith to expire on June 22, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are set forth in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claim 1 is amended; claims 2-9 are maintained; claims 10-20 are canceled; and claims 21 and 22 are added.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.